

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A data storage system, comprising:

at least one storing location in which a memory device is received while the memory device is not supplied with an electric power;

at least one docking location where the memory device is supplied with the electric power so that data can be stored in the memory device and retrieved from the memory device; and

a transport device for transporting the memory device between the storing location and the docking location.

15. (New) The data storage system of claim 14, wherein the docking location is designed to cause an electrical interconnection for data transmission and power control of the memory device to the system controller.

16. (New) The data storage system of claim 14, further comprising a system controller for controlling the transport device.

17. (New) The data storage system of claims 15, wherein the memory device is capable of being docked and undocked through the docking location and controlled by the system controller to lengthen the life span of the memory devices as well as reduce an overall system power consumption.

18. (New) The data storage system of claim 14, further comprising a second memory attached to the memory device for recording information relating to the memory device.

19. (New) The data storage system of claim 14, further comprising an active interface translation element (AIT) which provides a logical switching and electrical switching of data interfaces from the docking location through a virtual drive logical element to a host interface element.

20. (New) The data storage system of claim 19, wherein the AIT element includes a maintenance module which provides a monitoring of the memory device for predicting a failure of the memory device and executing operations required to minimize data loss and maintain integrity of the memory device.

21. (New) A data storage system, comprising:
one or more memory devices;
a system controller each connected with the memory devices through respective first switches for data transmission;

a power source connected with the memory devices through respective second switches; and

a switching controller for switching on and off the first and second switches.

22. (New) The data storage system of claim 21, further comprising a switching station for causing an electrical interconnection for data transmission and power control of the memory device to the system controller.

23. (New) The data storage system of claim 21, wherein the memory devices is switched on and off in conjunction with the switching controller to lengthen the life span of the memory devices as well as reduce an overall system power consumption.

24. (New) The data storage system of claim 21, further comprising an active interface translation element (AIT) which provides logical switching and electrical switching of data interfaces from the switching station through a virtual drive logical element to a host interface element.

25. (New) The data storage system of claim 24, wherein the active interface translation element (AIT) includes a virtual drive element which creates an appearance of a logical disk drive element to a host server system through a host interface element.

26. (New) The data storage system of claim 24, wherein the AIT element includes a maintenance module which provides a monitoring of the memory device for

predicting a failure of the memory device and executing operations required to minimize data loss and maintain integrity of the memory device.